

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE COMMITMENT OF THE CITY OF URBANA
TO PROVIDING OPEN ACCESS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY
IN THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN BIG BROADBAND SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2012, the Urbana City Council amended a motion supporting the UC2B application to Gigabit Squared, but the Champaign City Council was not informed of the amendments before their vote the following day; and

WHEREAS, the Urbana City Council was not informed about UC2B's intention to offer Gigabit Squared free use of up to one half of all the fiber strands on the NTIA-funded backbone network, a subsidy valued at over \$9 million over a 20 year contract, until after the Council vote on the application motion; and

WHEREAS, the Urbana City Council was not informed about the Non-Disclosure Agreement for the Gigabit Squared Application until after the Council vote on the application motion; and

WHEREAS, the UC2B Policy Board voted 4-3 against adding the Urbana amendments to a resolution related to terms of the potential agreement with Gigabit Squared; and

WHEREAS, UC2B has stated that University of Illinois financial support may change substantially from the original 5 year agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, that the City of Urbana communicates to all concerned by a straw vote of the City Council on July 30, 2012 that it is unlikely to enter into an agreement for expanded high-speed, fiber-optic services within the corporate limits of Urbana, Illinois that does not adhere to core principles of open access and local community connectivity as expressed in the Council July 23, 2012 resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, in the interest of transparency, fairness and in an effort to obtain the best possible service for the citizens of Urbana, Champaign and Savoy, the City of Urbana strongly urges that UC2B:

1. Explore various ownership/financing options under different scenarios and different timing options for build-out so that the City Councils and the public will be able to clearly understand and compare the options.
2. Acquire an independent evaluation and update of the UC2B Business Plan;
3. Issue an RFI with a goal for issuing an RFP for expanding high-speed, open-access, fiber optic broadband network to all homes and businesses in Urbana, Champaign, and Savoy while adhering to the core principles and conditions outlined in the amended motion passed by the Urbana City Council on July 23, 2012;

4. Invite input in the RFI from citizens, potential private partners, and interested public entities in Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy, and use the RFI as a precursor to issuing an RFP for all interested parties to participate in the creation of the broadband build-out in the UC2B area;

5. Immediately hire a general manager to oversee operations and maintenance of the grant-funded network;

6. Provide briefings to the Urbana City Council on all incentives offered to Gigabit Squared as well as all incentives that have been offered to other service providers to date;

7. Provide full disclosure on the personal and professional relationships among Gigabit Squared, NEOfiber, Gig U, and UC2B consultants and representatives; and

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____,

_____.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAINS:

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____,

_____.

Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor